

Application No.: 10/603,007
Amendment Dated: December 2, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: September 20, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement of allowable subject matter.

The specification stands objected due to informalities. Applicants have amended Claim 8 to recite that the recess and projection are spaced from the mounting axis such that engagement of the at least one projection and the at least one recess rotationally fixes the support structure. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to informalities in Claims 25 and 26. Applicants have amended the claims to correct the cited informalities. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended the claims to correct the cited informalities. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 13-16, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Melkent (U.S. Patent No. 6,725,080). Applicants have rewritten independent claims 1, 13 and 23 to include dependent claims containing subject matter acknowledged as being allowable, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

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It is believed that the above Remarks represent a complete response to the Office Action and that the Application is now in condition for allowance, and such favorable determination is requested.


In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time or payment of fee, Applicants hereby petition therefore and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 50-2779, ZIMMER TECHNOLOGY, INC.

If any questions regarding this Application should arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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December 2, 2004
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